



Thimbleberry Collaborative Farm

Board Member Position Description

Thimbleberry Collaborative Farm (TCF) is a nonprofit educational farm located near Gresham, OR. Our mission is to advance individual, community, and environmental health in East Multnomah County by providing healthy produce grown with regenerative practices; access to land; educational programs; and community-led events. For more information, please visit our website at <https://thimbleberrycollaborativefarm.org/>.

Core values:

1. TCF is a community-focused organization that brings people together around food and farming, in a collaborative learning environment.
2. TCF strives to create a sense of belonging and a welcoming, respectful, inclusive, and safe environment for everyone at the farm.
3. TCF is committed to humility, learning and growth in order to best serve our community.
4. TCF aims to help create a regenerative and equitable food system that is good for people and good for the planet.
5. TCF believes joy and fun contribute to the sustainability of our organization.

Position:

The Thimbleberry Collaborative Farm Board of Directors works with the executive director to guide the farm's mission and programs. We welcome all applications as we aim to build a Board of Directors that is representative of the many identities and experiences of the East Multnomah County community. As a member of the Board of Directors, you would:

Leadership and oversight:

- Assist the executive director in developing and implementing TCF's strategic plan
- Work with the executive director to guide TCF's programs, services, and impact evaluation plan
- Approve TCF's financial statements (including annual budget) and business decisions
- Evaluate the performance of the executive director each year
- Help to identify and recruit other board members
- Serve on working committees to help with fundraising, finance, strategic planning, etc.
- Promote TCF to the community and represent TCF in meetings with potential collaborators
- Ensure TCF's commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion (see equity statement below)



Fundraising:

- Share TCF's mission and goals with people in your network and invite them to donate to TCF
 - Every board member will set their own annual "give or get" goal, which is the amount of money you would contribute to the organization that year, through a combination of donating and inviting others to donate, attend TCF events, etc.
- Build relationships with foundations, organizations, and people outside of your network and encourage them to donate to TCF

Other expectations:

- Attend board meetings every six weeks. If you need to miss a meeting, let someone know ahead of time and, afterward, make sure to find out what you missed.
- Take the time to read and understand all relevant materials, especially TCF's financial reports. It's ok to ask for help! Not everyone will have experience with financial reports before joining the board.
- Learn about TCF's mission and be able to share it. Be an advocate for the organization in public.
- Continue your own education as a board member to serve TCF as effectively as possible.
- Treat confidential information appropriately.
- Speak up during a board meeting if something bothers you. We will strive for direct and respectful communication.
- Keep the best interest of the organization at heart when making decisions as a board member.
- Disclose any potential conflicts of interest.
- Understand the difference between your role as a board member and an organizational volunteer.
 - When you serve as a volunteer for various projects, you will not have the same directional or voting power as when you serve as a board member.

Time Commitment:

The schedule for monthly board meetings and working committee meetings is somewhat flexible based on the availability of our board members. Our next scheduled board meetings for 2024 will take place on April 16, May 28, July 2, and August 13, all 6-7:30pm online. (Occasionally, we will schedule board meetings in person when our out-of-town members are in town). Board members are also expected to:

- Attend all of Thimbleberry's major events (like semi-annual fundraisers) and attend at least one smaller event at the farm (like volunteer days and workshops) per quarter
- Find and attend at least one networking event per month
- Serve for two years, with the option to apply to serve for additional years
- Dedicate 8-10 hrs/ month to TCF



Board Compensation:

TCF values the time and energy that our board of directors spends on guiding the direction of our organization. We offer board members a stipend of \$300/year. Board members can choose to opt out of the compensation plan if they wish.

Qualifications:

Strong candidates will have:

- Leadership experience in business, government, philanthropy, or the nonprofit sector (including schools and community organizations)
- Good relationship-building, communication, and teamwork skills
- Passion for the mission of the organization

And will demonstrate commitment to:

- Advancing all forms of social justice with a particular focus on food justice (improving our food system so that everyone has access to healthy, affordable, culturally appropriate food regardless of economic status, race, religion, etc.)
- Environmental stewardship
- Working with a diverse team to serve our multicultural community

If you are interested in being on the TCF Board of Directors, please apply [here](#). You can also find the application on our website. Thank you!

Thimbleberry Collaborative Farm Equity Statement: *Thimbleberry Collaborative Farm strives to use a community-participatory approach to ensure historically marginalized community members are centered in our work. TCF is dedicated to sustainable measures to build equity into our organization's foundation. TCF acknowledges the historical harm done in our food systems, primarily to Black and Indigenous communities, people of color, LGBTQ community members, and those living with disabilities. From compensating our board members, to ensuring our staff is representative of the communities we serve, to regularly collecting feedback from stakeholders, community members and local organizations, TCF is committed to being an equitable, diverse, inclusive, and justice-oriented organization.*